



DURRINGTON NEWSLETTER

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride

26 May 2023 edition



Firstly we wanted to say a huge thank you to the very many parents and carers who have continued to support their children and our school over the last half term. We've had a very busy, but also fantastic half term most notably our team of nearly 100 students taking part and winning the Dance Live final in Portsmouth. Our new state of the art theatre is beginning to rise from the ground and we are excitedly tracking progress on this. Next half term we

will have lots of exciting news and changes to share with you as we look further ahead to the next academic year.

Finally, a big thank you to our students. So many of our students get the basics right every single day and are truly on course for success in their future. A big well done to each and every one of them.

*Shaun Allison & Chris Woodcock
Co-Headteachers*

DHS Art & Design Show

Thursday 6th July 4.30 – 6.00pm

Venue: Durrington High School



DHS Best of the Best

11th – 13th July 10am – 5.00pm

Venue: Colonnade House

Visitors will be treated to our amazing students fine art, textiles, graphics & photography work.

Announcing Pride of Durrington 2023



Award categories

Kindness in the community awards

- Volunteer of the year
- Charity fundraiser of the year
- Unsung community hero award
- Peer support award

Aspiration awards

- Outstanding contribution to extra-curricular activities
- Commitment to sport award
- Outstanding contribution to PE
- The spirit of adventure award



Perseverance awards

- Student of courage award
- Young achiever award
- Environmental champion award
- Overcoming adversity award
- The Sally Baker reading award
- Outstanding contribution to performing arts award
- Outstanding contribution to careers award
- Outstanding scholar award
- Diversity Champion award

Pride awards

- Pride of company (special recognition/contribution) awards
- Greatest contribution to school values award

Based on the huge success of last year's inaugural Pride of Durrington awards evening, we are delighted to announce that it will return this year on Thursday 13th July 2023.

We continue to be inspired by so many of our students. Pride of Durrington allows us to celebrate these outstanding achievements (both within school and the wider community) more formally.



How can you help?



Parents / carers & members of the community

We need your help to nominate our brilliant students so we are aware of their achievements.

We welcome nominations from adults however, please be understanding and aware that

- a) as in life, not all individuals nominated will receive an/the award.
- b) it is preferable (where possible) that nominations come from third parties.

If you wish to put forward the name of an exceptional student to be considered for one of this summer's Pride of Durrington awards please now use the form to do this below.

You will need to select which award (s) best fits the student you are nominating.

[Pride of Durrington nomination form](#)


An independent panel (none of whom will nominate) will review all nominations and decide on award winners. All nominations must be received by Monday 3rd July 9am please.

Finally, there will be a few other awards but they have specific staff making the nominations due to the nature of the award.



Perseverance

Digging deep and never giving up.



Pride

Being proud of who you are, what you achieve and the success of others.

Pride of Durrington 2023

Local businesses

We are asking for your help to make the celebration evening a resounding success again. Specifically, we are seeking either individuals or local businesses to help us showcase how valued our young people are. Individuals and/or businesses could help by sponsoring a specific award and/or by contributing to the evening itself: decorations, catering or certificate printing, to name a few examples.

We intend to recognise students in a wide range of categories and are therefore seeking minimum donations of £25 to support each award as well as helping us to cover the cost of running the evening. If you feel your business is aligned with our key values of Kindness, Aspiration, Perseverance and Pride, we would love to hear from you.

In return for your donation, we can offer:

- Your business name and details published in the event programme.
- Recognition of your support shared on our social media pages.
- Coverage of the night in the local newspaper.
- The opportunity for you to attend as a VIP guest.

If you, or your business, can help please do not hesitate to get in contact with us.

Email

ledwards@durring.com,

award@durring.com

or eisham@durring.com

to find out more information.





Mrs Isham - Performing Arts 20 years long service award

I started my journey at Durrington back in 2002, I had previously taught in Eastbourne for two years. I used to joke to my parents that the Head of Drama at Durrington was my dream job when the vacancy appeared and I was fortunate enough to get the job. My first few years were a rollercoaster! The school was a very different place (pre Ms Marooney!) and I quickly found my feet putting on my first whole school musical of Oliver in 2003, some of the students in that production are now successful names in the performing arts industry and one has now returned to the school as my colleague!

I genuinely love working at Durrington, I am lucky to work with amazing staff and equally wonderful students. I have always lived in

Worthing and I really enjoy working within our community. I am very excited to get in to the new theatre space and can't wait to put on productions in our own purpose built theatre.

I was asked to name my highlights, for me, there are too many to mention but a few of them are directing my favourite musical 'Les Misérables' even whilst heavily pregnant, winning rock challenge finals and making it through to the national finals... twice, 24 hour danceathons, 24 hour productions, taking the whole Rock Challenge team to Rotherham, winning Dance Live this year.

The biggest highlight for me is and has always been the students I teach, from ex-pupils getting in touch to share their successes or inviting me to their West End debut, to quiet, shy year 7 pupils who suddenly find their confidence. I am lucky to do a job I love every single day, in an area I love, surrounded by fantastic colleagues.

Here's to many more years!



Careers

Y10 College Taster Days

There are still spaces available on the Y10 Worthing College taster sessions. [Find out more here](#). Other colleges are also running taster sessions to enable students to try out their offer. [Find out more here](#). Please note that these are early tasters. A full set of open events for those students moving on in 2024 will be advertised in September.

Volunteers Needed—Careers Week - June 12th

We are preparing for Careers Week which starts on June 12th. We will be welcoming local employers including The RAF, HSBC, The Grand Hotel and HMRC Digital to meet the students as well as running activities during the day. If you represent a business and you would like to have a lunchtime stand to promote your sector, then please get in touch via careers@durring.com.

Careers Club - Mondays after school

If you would like to come along for 45 minutes to talk to a small group of Year 7 & Year 8 students about your job or your career journey, we would love to hear from you. It is very relaxed and will be a combination of sharing, chatting and perhaps a few activities. If you're interested, please get in touch via careers@durring.com. All stories are welcome!

Y10 Sussex Uni Summer School

The University of Sussex are running a summer school for young people who meet their [eligibility criteria](#). This is a free of charge opportunity for young people to experience both the social and learning environment a university can offer. Find out more, including [how to apply here](#). The offer includes travel, food and accommodation where needed. Deadline for applications is 9th June.





Edge Hill University Maths Challenge

As you may have seen in a previous newsletter five groups of Durrington High Year 9 students have entered the Edge Hill University Maths Challenge. Of these teams three made it through to the semi-final.

These teams worked together, outside of maths lessons, to find a solution to a complex mathematical problem. The University reported back to us that the number and standard of entries was extremely high this year.

The fantastic news is that one of our teams has made it to the final! Huge congratulations to Siaana Hearn, Darcie Willmott, Jasmine Lawrence and Tamsin Pollard who have a place in the final.

They will present their solution to the Maths problem they were faced with in the semi-final on the 4th July. Good luck to all these students.

Mrs Buchanan - Maths Teacher





Performing Arts Centre

The construction of our fantastic Performing Art Centre continues at pace. The foundations are now complete and installation of the steel work will begin next week, the building will then really start to shape.

We hope to open the Centre in March 2024, all being well our Whole School Musical will be the first major event held in it. We are looking forward to inviting more of you to watch than ever before, taking advantage of the larger capacity of the new space and the great view offered by the tiered bleacher seating.

Our DHS Sports Captains had a great day supporting and encouraging participants at the Sussex County Cricket Club DIScoverABILITY Day 2023.

This event is open to community disability organisations from across the County and includes various fun activities for everyone to try out and discover their cricketing abilities.





Computing

The department has been really busy with revision sessions this week, year 11 computer science students have now completed both their papers and completed their course. BTEC Digital IT have also sat their exam and business students have sat their first of two papers, with their second after half term.

Year 7s have now completed their spreadsheet lessons investigating real life data from Legoland. They are going on to a programming unit next, where they will be creating a 3D game - this

software is free to download at home, parents can do so by following this link in the Microsoft store: [3D game](#)

Year 8's, after taking apart the PC's last week, the groups have been learning how the CPU works and some groups have even been building their own PC using part picker, to see if they can build a off the shelf PC for much less. The students in code club each got to take part a PC fully on their own and managed to rebuild it, without too many loose screws!



Year 9's - their 3D homes are now complete and are putting together their reports to highlight the smart features they have included, everything from self-ordering fridges to wardrobes that select your cloth choices, based on the weather forecast for the day.

Reminders

Canteen payments

As a reminder please be aware that parents/carers can monitor their child's canteen spend via the IRIS

Parentmail app. If required you can also adapt your child's daily spend limit by emailing:

support@itservices.dmat.education who will be happy to help with any changes/advice.

Year 11

Please note that all students should attend the tutorial for English Language C1 on Monday 5th June and English Language C2 on Monday 12th June. Tutorials will start at 8am and will be with their class teachers.



Recruitment

Student Welfare Support & Main Office Assistant

Closing date: 9am Monday 5th June 2023

SCITT

Are you a parent or carer interested in becoming a teacher? Come and train with an Ofsted outstanding provider!

Our school is part of a partnership of schools leading the way for more school-led teacher training as part of The South Downs SCITT. This is really important to us because it means we can choose the very best talent and develop them into teachers. Being able to choose who we train as teachers helps us in delivering the best outcomes for the students at Durrington High School.

We have vacancies now to start training from September 2023 and we would be very interested to hear from you if you are thinking of becoming a teacher or know someone who is.

Get in touch with the friendly team at The South Downs SCITT - Tel: 01903 705671

(Durrington Multi Academy Trust, The Boulevard, Worthing).



Diary Dates

- Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June - Half term
- Thursday 22nd June Year 7 parent/carer evening
- Thursday 29th June Year 11 leavers assembly and Summer Ball
- Friday 30th June - INSET day

Social media

Don't forget you can follow all the latest news on our social media pages:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [Instagram](#)





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